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New Work Incentive Program for Persons with Disabilities

by Linda Asa

Do you or someone you know have a disability? Have you wanted to go back to work? Do you wish you could earn more money? Do you want to save for your retirement? You want to answer “yes” to one or all of these questions. But, you are afraid of losing your Medicaid health benefits.

Help is here. It’s called the **Medicaid Work Incentive Program**. This program is for a person:

- < with a long term disability
- < who is working or wants to go back to work.

Having a disability usually means you now get Social Security disability benefits. It can also mean your Medicaid worker helped you prove your disability through the State “review board.”

The **Medicaid Work Incentive Program** helps certain people with disabilities:

- < go to work
- < earn more money without losing their Medicaid or having to pay a large spend down to buy their card.

If you qualify for the Medicaid Work Incentive Program, you can keep more money (assets) to save:

- < for retirement
- < to buy a new car
- < to set up the kids college fund
- < or, to reach some other future goal

The asset limit is \$15,000!

Do you want to learn more about this new program?

- < talk to your Medicaid worker
- < visit your local State Health Department
- < or, call 801-538-7091.

Send comments or suggestions to:

Randa Pickle
P.O. Box 143107, Salt Lake City, Ut 84114-3107
Call 538-6417, or toll free 1-877-291-5583
E-mail rpickle@doh.state.ut.us.

Is Your Child Riding Safely?

Most parents would agree that the most important thing to them is their child. Keeping them safe is a priority. Here is a quiz about car safety for kids.

Test your own safety knowledge.

1. The leading cause of death for children ages 0-14 is:
 - a. all childhood diseases combined
 - b. car crashes
 - c. poisoning from household products
2. If all infants were properly restrained in child safety seats, deaths would be reduced by what percent?
 - a. 25%
 - b. 53%
 - c. 71%
3. What percentage of car seats in Utah are installed correctly?
 - a. 3%
 - b. 20%
 - c. 50%

answers: 1. b, 2. c, 3. a

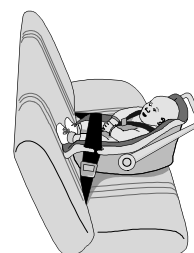
It’s sad, but true, the leading cause of death for children is car crashes. Each day, 15 children die and many more are seriously injured.

The good news is that there is something you can do for your child! Make sure your car seat is properly installed. Your child’s risk of injury or death is greatly reduced.

Tips on child car seat safety:

Infants should ride rear facing in the back seat until they are **both** 1 year old and weigh at least 20 pounds

- i Toddlers ride forward facing in a car seat until they are 40 pounds



- i booster seats are for a child weighing between 40 and 80 pounds

Lap and shoulder belts won't protect a child properly until he weighs at least 80 pounds.



In Utah nearly all (97%) of car seats are not installed correctly. What can you do for your child? Call your local health department to set up an appointment for a car seat inspection.

Carbon/Emery
Georgina Nowak
435/637-3671

Central Utah
Corrina Jessen
435/896-5451 x40

Davis County
Jill McArthur
801/451-3591

Salt Lake County
Bob Jeppesen
801/313-6607

Southern Utah
Kurt Tanner
435/673-3528 x56

Summit County
Geri Essen
435/649-9072

Tooele County
Shannon England
435/843-2314

Tri-County
Toni Fenn
435/781-5471

Utah County
Kye Miner
801/370-8768

Wasatch County
Jonelle Fitzgerald
435/654-2700 x408

Weber-Morgan
Jann Fawcett
(801) 399-8165

Medicaid Transportation - Rules you need to know



Transportation for medical care is a service many people need. If you don't have a car, and no one who lives in your home has a car to take you to your appointments, your medical card is your ticket to Medicaid transportation services. The rules for getting

transportation through Medicaid, **for regular medical appointments**, are:

1. When public transportation is available in your area, and you need a ride to and from medical appointments, Medicaid can give you a special bus pass for the medical trips. (70% of the buses are wheelchair accessible.)
2. If you cannot take public transportation, for a medical reason, you may qualify for Medicaid Paid medical transportation services through UTA paratransit services (Flex trans, Handitrans or United Way). You will need to apply for these services. Call UTA in Salt Lake County at 287-7433, Weber-Davis County 393-1736 and Utah County 374-9306 for more information about how to apply. It will take about six weeks to find out if you qualify. **PickMeUp** (a transportation service) can provide your medical transportation while you are waiting for an answer from UTA.
3. If public transportation is not available in your area, or if you do not qualify for Medicaid paid

medical transportation services through UTA, you may qualify for other transportation services through **PickMeUp**. You must give **PickMeUp** a copy of the denial letter from UTA.

You can arrange transportation services through **PickMeUp** by calling 1-888-822-1048. By **October 15, 2001**, everyone using **PickMeUp** services must have a doctor's letter on file with **PickMeUp**. The letter must state why your condition prevents you from using available public transportation. If public transportation is not available in your area, the letter must state why you need transportation services to medical appointments. If **PickMeUp** doesn't have a letter from your doctor, make sure your doctor sends one before the deadline. If a doctor's letter is not received at **PickMeUp** by October 15, 2001, you will not be able to use **PickMeUp** services, and Medicaid can authorize a bus pass instead.

Your doctor can mail the letter to:

PickMeUp @ PO Box 713, Orem, UT 84059-0713, or fax it to: 1-801-224-4246

What is urgent care? It's a medical condition that needs to be seen that day. It is not an "emergency".

The rules for getting transportation through Medicaid, **for urgent care**, are a little different than for regular medical appointments. UTA paratransit does not provide transportation for urgent care. **PickMeUp** will provide this, 24 hours a day, seven days a week (as long as you don't have a car, and no one who lives in your home has a car to take you to your appointment). For urgent care, you do not need a doctor letter. Your need for urgent care will be verified by **PickMeUp** when they call your doctor.

For more information call Medicaid Information Line at 1-800-662-9651

Pregnant Women: You Are Breathing For Two!

Now is the best time to quit smoking. While pregnant you are 50% more likely to succeed than any other time in your life. Take advantage of the timing.

To help you quit Medicaid now pays for:

- C Group or self help classes - you can take a partner or a friend is welcome to attend - whether they smoke or not.
- C Prescriptions for nicotine patches, gum and Zyban - ask your doctor if these products are right for you.

Call your Medicaid case worker. Ask to fill out the short survey about tobacco use. You will be contacted by someone from Medicaid who can tell you about the programs in your area. Collect calls will be accepted.

Remember - **You Are Breathing for Two!**